LAW FIRM

## BLACKWELL SANDERS PEPER MARTIN

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June 13, 2001

Brad W. Bradley SR-6J USEPA REGION V 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604-3507

Re:

Status of the College of the Ozarks as a PRP

at the National Lead, Inc. / Tara Corp. Superfund Site

Our File No. 14172-29

Dear Brad:

This letter is a follow up to our conversations regarding the involvement of the College of the Ozarks, formerly known as the School of the Ozarks, at the National Lead, Inc. / Tara Corp. Superfund Site ("Site"). The College of the Ozarks received a letter dated March 5, 2001 from EPA Region V regarding a possible de minimis settlement at the Site.

On March 21, 2001, I sent to Region V a Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Request for any documents that implicated the College of the Ozarks as a Potentially Responsible Party ("PRP") at the Site. The response I received from Fred Gage, dated April 13, 2001, contained only one document, a letter from the College arguing that it should not be considered a PRP. This single document cannot constitute the entire file for the College.

On April 23, 2001, you and I discussed the possibility that documents were missing from the file, and you agreed to attempt to locate them. I left a message on your voice mail on May 9, 2001 and spoke with you on again on May 21, 2001 regarding this issue. At that time, the documents in question had not yet been located in the file room.

The College remains interested in entering into a *de minimis* settlement, but must first ascertain what liability, if any, it has for the contamination at the Site. Please advise me, at your earliest convenience, if any additional documentation regarding the College's involvement at the Site can be located.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

KC-873931-1

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Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daryl G. Ward

DGW/lj

cc: Stephen G Jeffery